

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 111

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS : ECON EFIN QA

SUBJECT : ANNOUNCEMENT OF GOVERNMENT OF QATAR'S 1975 BUDGET

REF: DOHA 58

1. ON JAN 18, GOVERNMENT OF QATAR ANNOUNCED THAT AMIRI DECREE HAD BEEN ISSUED PROMULGATING GENERAL STATE BUDGET FOR 1975 WITH EFFECTIVE DATE OF JAN 12.

2. ANNOUNCEMENT ACCOMPANIED BY EXPLANATORY STATEMENT BY GOQ MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM SHAYKH ABDUL AZAZ BIN KHALIFA AL THANI PROVIDING RATIONALE FOR BUDGET AND FIGURE BREAKDOWN. ACCORDING STATEMENT, BUDGET TOTAL 1598 MILLION QATARI RIYALS (\$1.00 EQUALS 3.94 QRS) TO WHICH WILL BE ADDED 305 MILLION RIYALS FOR "INVESTMENT IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES". STATEMENT NOTED THAT BUDGET WAS LARGEST IN HISTORY OF QATAR AND REPRESENTED 308 PER CENT INCREASE OVER 1974 AMOUNT WHICH SPECIFIED AS 616 MILLION QRS. ACCORDING ABDUL AZIZ, BUDGET INDICATES GOQ'S INTENTION TO REALIZE "SOCIAL PROSPERITY" THROUGH DEVELOPMENT USING MOST MODERN TECHNOLOGY AVAILABLE IN ACCOMPLISHING FOLLOWING:

- A. MAXIMUM EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES;
- B. DIVERSIFICATION TO REDUCE DEPENDENCE ON PETROLEUM AS SOLE SOURCE OF REVENUE; AND

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- C. DEVELOPMENT OF QATAR'S HUMAN RESOURCES SO THAT ALL

ELEMENTS OF QATARI SOCIETY CAN BOTH CONTRIBUTE TO AND  
PROFIT FROM DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS.

3. STATEMENT PROVIDED FOLLOWING GENERAL BREAKDOWNS:

- A. INDUSTRIAL SECTOR ("HEAVY INDUSTRY") QRS 305 MILLION  
ALLOCATED FROM "GENERAL STATE RESERVE".
- B. SOCIAL SERVICES (HOUSING, ELECTRICITY AND WATER PROJECTS)  
QRS 602 MILLION. (QRS 182 MILLION IN 1974.)
- C. ECONOMIC SERVICES (TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, IN-  
DUSTRY AND AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS) QRS 477 MILLION.  
(QRS 181 MILLION IN 1974.)
- D. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL SERVICES (CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL,  
HEALTH AND INFORMATION PROJECTS) QRS 275 MILLION.  
(QRS 102 MILLION IN 1974.)
- E. GENERAL SERVICES (ADMINISTRATION, SECURITY, JUSTICE  
PROJECTS) QRS 144 MILLION. (QRS 51 MILLION IN 1974.)

4. FURTHER BREAKDOWNS ACCORDING TO SECTOR WILL BE PROVIDED BY  
AIRGRAM. OUR INITIAL LOOK AT ANNOUNCED BUDGET FIGURES INDICATES  
THAT THEY DO NOT TOTAL; WE WILL SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM THE  
MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

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